

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 MCT-01 SY-05 HA-05 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
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P R 090640Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0913
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

UNCLAS DJIBOUTI 0651

DEPT PASS HORN OF AFRICA COLLECTIVE

E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: PINS, PDIP, ASEC, DJ, ET, FR
SUBJ: DJIBOUTI ANNOUNCEMENT ON KIDNAPPING FRENCHMAN

REF: DJIBOUTI 650

1. FOLLOWING IS EMBASSY TRANSLATION PRESS STATEMENT
ISSUED BY PRESIDENT OFFICE, MORNING OF 8 MAY, CONCERNING
KIDNAPPING FRENCH ASSISTANT ROAD ENGINEER BOUCAULT.

2. QUOTE. DURING THE EVENING OF 7 MAY ABOUT 8 O'CLOCK,
MISTER BOUCAULT (SIC) , FRENCH CIVIL SERVANT, EMPLOYED
DIRECTLY BY THE GOVERNMENT OF DJIBOUTI IN THE RANDA PUBLIC
WORKS SECTION, WAS THE VICTIM OF A KIDNAPPING BY ARMED
ELEMENTS USING A TOYOTA ALL SURFACE VEHICLE.

3. QUOTE. AFTER THE KIDNAPPING THE VEHICLE CRASHED THE
BALHO ROADBLOCK TO ENTER ETHIOPIAN TERRITORY.

4. QUOTE. THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC REQUESTED THE
ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT TODAY THROUGH ITS CHARGE D'AFFAIRES
IN DJIBOUTI THAT MISTER BOUCAULT (SIC) BE RETURNED
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IMMEDIATELY WITH THE SEVEN AUTHORS OF THE KIDNAPPING.

5. QUOTE. AN INVESTIGATION HAS BEEN OPENED TO DETERMINE
THE FACTS OF THE OPERATION.

6. QUOTE. ON THIS OCCASION THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC

HAS DECIDED TO REINFORCE SECURITY MEASURES AND REQUESTS
THE POPULATION TO COOPERATE CLOSELY WITH THE LEGAL
AUTHORITIES IN ORDER TO AVOID A RENEWAL OF SIMILAR ACTIONS
WHICH HAVE
AS OBJECTIVE THE DESTABILISATION OF THE COUNTRY.
UNQUOTE' CLARK

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED ABOVE ADDRESSEES.

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